

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SAM-01 SP-02 EB-03 PRS-01 RSC-01

/045 W

----- 067562

R 171140Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0367

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0089

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GE, GW

SUBJECT: BERLIN TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS

REF: US BERLIN 33; USBERLIN 56

1. SUMMARY: SENAT HAS INFORMED US THAT FRG HAS DECIDED TO APPROACH NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR OVER IMPROVEMENT OF BERLIN TRANSIT ROUTES IN CAREFUL, FLEXIBLE MANNER, AVOIDING REVEALING LIST OF PRIORITIES IN ADVANCE. FRG PERMREP IN EAST BERLIN IS TO UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HELP FROM RESPONSIBLE FRG MINISTRIES. EFFORT WILL BE MADE LEARN GDR INFRA-STRUCTURE PRIORITIES IN ORDER TO NEGOTIATE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EAST GERMAN FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION. END SUMMARY:

2. ALLIED SENAT LIASON OFFICERS MET WITH DIETRICH STOBBE, SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS, JANUARY 16 TO DISCUSS RESULTS MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BONN JANUARY 15  
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ON TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS. STOBBE NOTED THAT SINCE

FRG WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR ON TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS, CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES WILL TAKE PLACE PRIMARILY IN BONN. STOBBE ASKED THEREFORE THAT HIS REMARKS NOT BE REVEALED AT BONN GROUP MEETINGS. (ACTION REQUESTED: DO NOT DISCUSS CONTENTS THIS MESSAGE WITH FRG OFFICIALS.) STOBBE ADDED THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, WHO CHAIRED JANUARY 15 MEETING, WANTS MATTER HELD AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE. FOLLOWING ARE PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE BY STOBBE:

A. FRG PERMREP GAUS WILL BE IN CHARGE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR. OFFICIALS FROM PRINCIPAL MINISTRIES CONCERNED (CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE, FONAFFAIRS, TRANSPORT, FINANCE, INNER-GERMAN AFFAIRS) WILL BE MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION.

B. A SEPARATE COORDINATION GROUP WILL BE FORMED TO PROVIDE POLICY GUIDELINES; INNER-GERMAN AFFAIRS MIN FRANKE WILL CHAIR IT.

C. PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED BY MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT-SENAT WORKING GROUP (REFTELS) WERE CONFIRMED BUT WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED LIST OF OPERATIONAL PREFERENCES BUT NOT CATALOG TO BE MADE PUBLIC OR SHOWN TO GDR. GAUS IS TO ATTEMPT DETERMINE GDR INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES SO THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD PROCEED ON BASIS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND SHARED FINANCIAL LIABILITY. (STOBBE SAID THAT SINCE MOST OF TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED BY GDR WILL IMPROVE AND STRNEGTHEN EAST GERMAN INRASTRUCTURE, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WANTS TO GET EAST GERMANS TO PAY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.) AS EXAMPLE, STOBBE PROPOSED A HYPOTHETICAL GDR DESIRE TO IMPROVE HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN MAGDEBURG AND EAST BERLIN WHICH FRG MIGHT LEARN ABOUT DURING BARGAINING; SUCH INFO WOULD

PROVIDE BASIS FOR FRG DEMAND THAT GDR PAY LARGER SHARE OF COSTS THAN WOULD BE CASE WERE FRG TO PROPOSE RECONSTRUCTION OF BERLIN-HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN. STOBBE EXPECTED GAUS TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS ON GROUP BY CONFIDENTIAL

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GROUP BASIS, E.G. RAIL LINE IMPROVEMENTS, HIGHWAY/AUTOBAHN IMPROVEMENTS AND WATERWAY IMPROVEMENTS, RATHER THAN ON PROJECT BY PROJECT BASIS TO FURTHER PROTECT FRG SENSE OF PRIORITIES.

D. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE DURING NEGOTIATIONS TO RELATE FRG INFRASTRUCTURE TO GDR INFRASTRUCTURE IN EFFORT ESTABLISH COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS RATHER THAN

ONE-SIDED (AND HENCE FINANCIALLY VULNERABLE) APPROACH  
FROM FRG.

E. ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO BE CONDUCTED ON

FLEXIBLE BASIS SO THAT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE PROJECTS  
CAN BE NEGOTIATED AND APPROVED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.  
(STOBBE BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT EXCEPT FOR AGREEMENT  
ON STAAKEN RAIL CROSSING POINT, WHICH COULD BE  
APPROVED AND CARRIED OUT IN RELATIVELY SHORT TIME,  
NEGOTIATIONS WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE THROUGHOUT 1975.)

F. TELTOW CANAL IS SPECIAL CASE. FONMIN GENSCHER HAD  
ASKED THAT EAST GERMANS BE APPROACHED TO OBTAIN  
AGREEMENT FOR FRG TO NEGOTIATE TELTOW CANAL  
RE-OPENING. ONLY IF GDR REFUSED, WOULD SENAT, AFTER  
OBTAINING ALLIED APPROVAL, UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATIONS ON  
THIS MATTER. (SENAT CHANCELLERY CHIEF HERZ TOLD  
LIAISON OFFICERS ON JANUARY 14 THAT IF SENAT IS TO  
NEGOTIATE TELTOW CANAL IMPROVEMENTS, NEGOTIATORS  
PROBABLY WOULD BE MELSHEIMER FROM BERLIN DEPARTMENT  
OF BUILDING AND HOUSING AND ILGEN FROM GDR MINISTRY OF  
TRAFFIC.) STOBBE ADDED THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WANTED  
TELTOW CANAL APPROACH TO BE TIGHTLY HELD.

G. FUTURE QUESTIONS ON TRANSIT ROUTE NEGOTIATIONS  
WILL BE HANDLED ON AD HOC BASIS AT HIGH LEVEL IN FRG  
GOVERNMENT WITH STOBBE AS SILENT PARTICIPANT. GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, RAILROADS, HIGHWAYS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975USBERL00089  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750018-1111  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750140/aaaabjku.tel  
**Line Count:** 143  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 75 US BERLIN 33, 75 USBERLIN 56  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchantr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2003 by buchantr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BERLIN TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, WB, GC, GE  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006